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AN

APOLOGY

TO THE

PUBLIC

FOR COMMENCING

The *Practice* of *Physic*;

PARTICULARLY IN

Gouty, Rheumatic, and Hysterical CASES:

In which are related some recent and extraordinary Cures of the Gout,

Performed on Gentlemen of Credit and Property,

By a Course of Medicines no less safe than efficacious.

By DANIEL SMITH, M. D.

The SECOND EDITION.

Printed for Carnan and Newbery, in St. *Paul's Church-yard:* Where may be had, by the same Author, *A Letter to Doctor* Cadogan; and *Observations on Doctor* Williams's *Treatise on the Gout.*

[Price SIX-PENCE.]

An APOLOGY, &c.

WHEN I wrote my Letter to Doctor CADOGAN, on the ſubject of the Gout, there was nothing farther from my thoughts than a deſign of practiſing phyſic: nor ſhould I indeed have publiſhed that letter, but at the particular ſolicitation of ſome friends, who knew how different my opinion was from that of the Doctor, with regard to the cauſe of the Gout and the effects of medicine. They obſerved that my recovery from the fits of the Gout was not like other people's; and, as they knew with what intenſe application I had ſtudied the ſubject of this diſeaſe, they thought my remarks would be of conſiderable uſe to gouty men in general. An attention to this circumſtance was my ſole motive for the publication of that letter. At that time I had never tried the effect of my medicines on any one but myſelf; nor perhaps ever ſhould, but for that public addreſs; tho' I did upon all

occaſions

occaſions declare my readineſs to adminiſter them within the private circle of my own acquaintance. All topical applications for this complaint were (before Doctor CADOGAN publiſhed his Treatiſe on the Gout) held as certainly deſtructive. It was therefore in vain to combat with this prejudice, notwithſtanding my happy and ſpeedy recoveries. However, in conſequence of that publication, I had the pleaſing ſatisfaction of receiving ſundry letters from ſome very eminent and diſtinguiſhed gentlemen of the faculty, expreſſing their approbation of it. It likewiſe produced applications from many people afflicted with the Gout, who now became very deſirous (from what I had wrote) of trying the ſame means which had ſo eminently relieved me. I did not refuſe the medicines to any of my neighbors, where I could be a witneſs of their being properly uſed; and I had the grateful pleaſure of ſeeing their ſucceſs on every one who tried them.—Their good effect indeed on ſome gentlemen was ſo ſurpriſing, that I ſhall not reſt the relation of it on my ſingle teſtimony. I am not afraid of any impeachment

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of my own veracity; but the public have a right to every ſpecies of evidence in all matters in which they are intereſted, more particularly in thoſe which regard their health. the moſt valuable of all terreſtrial enjoyments.

The bare hint to thoſe gentlemen of the neceſſity of their teſtimony was ſufficient; and they have authoriſed me to ſay, that every thing related of them in this pamphlet is ſtrictly true. The public are certainly as much indebted to them for this candor as myſelf; as it moſt obviouſly flows from that liberality and univerſal benevolence which does honor to human nature.

The firſt gentleman that tried my medicines was the Rev. Mr. Camplin, in *Briſtol.* He had a ſevere fit of the Gout, which attacked him in his feet, which, when I firſt ſaw him were much ſwollen and inflamed, the inflammation going off: I might now have made a merit of inſtantly relieving him; but ſuch pitiful arts will never be practiſed by thoſe, whoſe views are truly directed to ſerve mankind.

kind. I told Mr. CAMPLIN that it appeared to me his fit was going off, and therefore recommended it to him to have only the worſt foot anointed, in order to ſee how much ſooner that would recover it's tone than the other: at the ſame time I preſſed him conſtantly to take the internal medicine, in order to prevent a relapſe, by expunging from his habit the remaining peccant humor, which I was well perſuaded was ſtill there. He ſoon grew better, and the anointed foot perceptibly recovered it's tone before the other: but having neglected the uſe of the internal medicine, and being obliged to give an unuſual long attendance at a funeral in very froſty weather, he caught a violent cold, which brought on a relapſe of the Gout. He was now attacked in the great toe of that foot which had not been anointed, which was highly inflamed and extremely painful: the liniment was applied at a proper time, in order to prove it's anodine quality; it had the deſired effect, and removed the pain immediately. In three days after Mr. CAMPLIN put on his common ſhoes, and did duty at the Cathedral: not many days intervened

tervened before he was able in a ſevere froſt to viſit a gentleman on foot, at the diſtance of ſix miles from his own houſe; and the next morning returning the ſame way, has continued free from the Gout ever ſince.

I DO not from hence infer that Mr. CAMPLIN is radically cured of the Gout; I am thoroughly convinced no ſuch thing can reaſonably be expected in every conſtitution; and I cannot help thinking, that he who arrogantly promiſes ſuch a cure muſt be either ignorant or diſhoneſt; his vain pretences muſt ariſe from his want of a perfect knowledge of the human frame, the nature of the diſeaſe, and the power of medicine; or from a deſign to make a property of the patient, which has been lately done, to the ſcandal of phyſic, the diſcredit of the practitioner, and the manifeſt injury of the patient. I believe, however, that thoſe who have brought on the gout by indolence and intemperance may ſometimes get rid of it again by an oppoſite mode of living; I had once an opportunity of ſeeing this verified: A gentleman (I had the honor of being known

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to) obſerving a laboring man very induſtrious, and of a remarkable civil deportment, made him his gate-porter: the man had now the range of his patron's kitchen and cellar, the produce of which he grew extremely fond of, and in a few years became very gouty: at the ſame time growing indolent and inſolent he was diſmiſſed from his place; and conſequently, being obliged to return to his former abſtemious and laborious life, he never had the Gout afterwards.

On the other hand, I have known many inſtances of poor laboring men who have been (notwithſtanding their great exerciſe and neceſſary abſtinence) ſeverely afflicted with the Gout. From theſe inſtances, it is demonſtrable, indolence and intemperance produce the ſame effect in ſome conſtitutions which nature does in others, and which cannot totally be prevented by any means whatever; at leaſt by no other means but ſuch, as I fear no gentleman will ſubmit to: happy therefore, unſpeakably happy is it, that the power of medicine will give immediate eaſe in the moſt

excru-

ciating paroxyſms of the Gout, conſiderably ſhorten the fits, and reſtore to health a languid gouty conſtitution; and that it will do this, my own perſonal experience, and that of the other gentlemen who have ſubmitted to my practice, will moſt evidently prove; and will, I hope, exculpate me from the wretched imputation of being a vain and arrogant pretender to the healing art; an art which, when fairly and honeſtly purſued, has ever been conſidered as highly honorable, and deſerving every liberal encouragement.

If an invidious reader ſhould ſurmiſe I have made theſe reflections with a principal view to promote my own practice and the ſale of my medicines, I can only ſay he does not do me juſtice. My former ſufferings, and the ſufferings of thoſe friends who were exceedingly dear to me, have created in me a tender feeling for the miſeries of gouty people in general, and a ſtrong deſire of relieving them: and why ſhould it be ſuppoſed, by theſe miſerable objects of compaſſion, that the great, glorious, and beneficent Almighty Being has with-held

from them thoſe remedies for their diſorder, which he has ſo indulgently provided and given to others? I wiſh young people in particular, who are attacked with the Gout, ſeriouſly to conſider thoſe dreadful conſequences of this diſeaſe, which ſo often preſent themſelves to public view, but which, by a ſkilful uſe of medicine, may be effectually and ſafely prevented.

Thus much I may with ſtrict propriety be allowed to ſay, as I have not for fifteen years paſt received the leaſt apparent injury from the Gout; in the courſe of which time I have ſeen numbers of young and middle-aged people cut off by this fatal diſeaſe; and others rendered miſerable cripples; a condition perhaps worſe than death itſelf. And when I reflect on the pain I formerly ſuffered, and conſider the apparent injury the Gout did to my perſon and conſtitution, how do I lament that thoſe remedies now offered to the public were then unknown to me!

The next gentleman who tried my medicines was Mr. Paulin, on the *North-Parade* in *Bath*. He had been afflicted with the Gout for twelve years: the fit in which I attended him had tortured him with little intermiſſion for ſix months; at which time he was attacked again with great violence in his knees: in this ſituation every thing having been done for him, it was recommended by a gentleman of the faculty to procure my aſſiſtance. Mr. Paulin was at a loſs how to do this, as I had publicly declared I would take no fees, and was wholly unknown to him. Mr. Gyde was now pointed out as one who knew me: he kindly undertook the office of ſoliciting my attendance on Mr. Paulin, and came expreſs to *Aſhton* for this purpoſe. Mr. Gyde was a perſon I had a ſingular pleaſure in obliging, and therefore at his earneſt requeſt I waited on Mr. Paulin, whom I found in bed.

He gave me a circumſtantial account of his conſtitution, and the nature of his complaints; I aſſured him of relief, provided he exactly followed my directions; which he promiſed

moſt punctually to do: I then ſaw his knees well anointed with the liniment: In about half an hour Mr. PAULIN declared he was perfectly free from pain, and was able to extend his leg, which was before contracted. Three weeks after this he very politely made me a viſit at *Aſhton*, that I might have the pleaſing ſatiſfaction of enjoying his recovery; he likewiſe brought his apothecary with him, who declared Mr. PAULIN appeared to him to be then in a better ſtate of health than he had been in for five years before: the ſame remark was made of him four months after by Mrs. PAULIN, and likewiſe by many of his friends at *Bath*.

IT is natural to ſuppoſe Mr. PAULIN's recovery was much talked of, and produced other applications. One was now made to me by a very ſenſible and polite man in favour of his friend THOMAS GILBERT, Eſq; of *Bathwick*, whoſe caſe he told me, was both a ſingular and melancholy one; for that he had, in conſequence of a fit of the Gout, totally loſt the uſe of his legs; had tried the hot-bath, the dry pump, and every other common method

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of relief to no purpoſe, and therefore deſpaired of any: He aſked me what I thought of his caſe, and deſired I would ingenuouſly tell him whether there was any chance of his recovery by the means of thoſe medicines which had ſo remarkably relieved Mr. PAULIN. I candidly anſwered him, that I thought Mr. GILBERT's caſe was ſo bad there was but little room for him to expect relief; however that I would readily make him a viſit when I ſhould be enabled to be more explicit. I agreed with that gentleman on the day of meeting him at *Bath*, when he was to introduce me to Mr. GILBERT; which he accordingly did: I found Mr. GILBERT in his armed chair, exactly anſwering the deſcription before given of him: He confirmed what his friend had related, and added, that he had been afflicted with the Gout for twenty years paſt; that ſubſequent to his laſt fit he was ſlightly ſtruck with the palſy, of which, however, he was perfectly recovered. Soon after he was ſeverely attacked with the gout, which held him for five months, and on going off left him in that miſerable condition he then appeared in. His own account rendered his

recovery

recovery ſtill more doubtful: I, however, ordered his legs to be tenderly ſtretched out, in order to judge whether his Weakneſs was owing to a contraction or relaxation: It was ſome time before he complained of any pain, not indeed 'till his legs were almoſt extended. I had now ſome little hopes of relieving him, tho' I did not give him any, as I hold it an act of cruelty to feed a man with the hopes of a cure which is extremely uncertain. I aſſured him the internal medicine would greatly improve his health, and that the external application could not make him worſe: He had great confidence in the remedies, and moſt exactly uſed them agreeably to the directions I gave him: He ſoon found benefit from them, and was enabled in about ſix weeks to walk acroſs his room, without the aſſiſtance even of a ſtick: His general ſtate of health is likewiſe ſo greatly improved, that the laſt time I had the pleaſure to ſee him (which was not more than three months from the time he began the uſe of the medicines) he told me with a diſtinguiſhed pleaſure, that he had that morning walked a mile or more.

These repeated applications convinced me that I could not with-hold my aſſiſtance thus earneſtly ſought for, and ſucceſsfully applied, without a manifeſt act of inhumanity; nor would my ſituation in life permit me with prudence to attend gouty patients at ſuch a diſtance from my own houſe without a reaſonable compenſation. On theſe conſiderations I determined to preſent the public with the ſecret of my medicines, the method of preparing them, and the directions to be obſerved in their uſe and application. Here my friends warmly interpoſed, and obſerved, that as I had made thoſe diſcoveries with great labor, and at the riſk of my life, it would be an act of injuſtice to my family, not to make ſome advantage of them, more particularly as the gout generally fell on thoſe people who were ſo well able to pay for a remedy. It was in vain for me to urge, that in my Letter to Doctor Cadogan I had ſaid, "If I can eſta-
"bliſh the certain efficacy of this method of
"relief which has done me ſuch ſignal ſervice,
"I intend to give it to the public for the bene-
"fit of my fellow-ſufferers." Notwithſtanding

this

this plea, my friends inſiſted on the prior claim of my family, and aſſured me farther, that tho' I had declared I would never practiſe phyſic, yet the public had a right to call on me to retract that declaration, if it appeared I could be uſeful in the profeſſion.

I SHALL not undertake to defend theſe principles, and can only ſay, that had my fortune been as eaſy as I could wiſh, I ſhould have ſtrictly adhered to my firſt declaration.

THE firſt ſtep I took in conſequence of my friends remonſtrance was to propoſe the publication of my medicines by ſubſcription, intending by this means that thoſe in affluent circumſtances might have an opportunity of procuring relief to their poorer fellow-ſufferers, and that all gouty people in general ſhould reap the benefit of my labors. This propoſal was not accepted, and yet I am conſtantly called on both for my advice and medicines. For theſe reaſons I found myſelf under the neceſſity of complying with the earneſt ſolicitations of my family and friends

to practiſe as a phyſician. But as it will be impoſſible for me to attend patients at a conſiderable diſtance, and being truly deſirous that every perſon afflicted with the gout, may partake of the ineſtimable benefit I have in ſo eminent a degree received, I ſhall not ſcruple to ſupply ſuch with the medicines as are beyond the reach of my perſonal viſits, and will alſo furniſh them with the moſt ample inſtructions for their uſe and application.

If theſe are ſtrictly followed, I can with confidence aſſert every gouty ſubject will receive benefit from the remedies, provided their vital powers are not injured; and even in this caſe, their ſufferings may be mitigated, and their lives prolonged. But let me again repeat the neceſſity of a ſtrict and moſt exact attention to thoſe inſtructions; ſince it will otherwiſe be in vain to expect ſucceſs; for if you are determined to adopt them only in part, and at the ſame time attach yourſelf to your own opinion and practice, you will be as much deceived as that man, who wanting to drive his carriage up a hill, fixes one horſe before

and the other behind: In that caſe, as in this, the ground gained by one, will be loſt by the other.

With reſpect to the ſafety of the medicines, they are ſo perfectly innocent, that they may be adminiſtred without danger to an infant of two years old. I muſt however obſerve, that the leaſt variation in their compoſition may prove fatal; and this I do not ſay without ſufficient reaſon. This circumſtance is mentioned in order to prevent unſkilful people from adminiſtring ſuch remedies as they may think like them.

I believe it impoſſible for the moſt expert Chymiſt exactly to analize them, and I declare upon my honor and credit, they are not in any medical book whatever, and perfectly unknown to any one but myſelf.

I flatter myſelf the impartial part of mankind will not blame me for retaining the ſecret of my medicines (for the reaſons before given) conſidering their ineſtimable value: Nor will

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it, I hope, be thought illiberal to furniſh thoſe with them, who from their diſtant ſituation cannot apply for my perſonal aſſiſtance. Indeed had I ſold the medicines by common agents, the example of ſome very eminent phyſicians, both amongſt the ancients and moderns, would have juſtified the practice. Among the latter I mention with reſpect Doctor JAMES, whoſe excellent powders have proved ſo extenſively uſeful and ſalutary, which they never could have been, had they been confined merely within the ſphere of his own practice.

IT will perhaps be expected that I ſhould give my reaſons for preferring gouty, rheumatic, and hyſterical patients in the courſe of my propoſed practice. Their diſeaſes I have more immediately ſtudied, and therefore with ſome propriety can ſay, I am better qualified to treat them. It muſt however be ſuppoſed, that every man who has entered deeply into the ſcience of phyſic, muſt be acquainted with the general method of treating moſt diſeaſes; yet as the knowledge of human nature is

limitted to certain bounds, and as perfection is not the happy portion of mankind, I am perſuaded, if phyſicians would reduce the great variety of diſeaſes poor unhappy mortals are ſubject to, into different claſſes, and each phyſician chooſe that claſs his genius prompts him to ſtudy, the divine art of healing in all probability would be much improved, and conſequently the ſick more effectually helped, and more eaſily reſtored: For a divided attention in any ſcience cannot operate ſo quickly or ſo ſurely as that which is confined to a particular object.

Conscious of the limitation of human knowledge, I have choſen to direct my little ſhare of it to the ſtudy of theſe diſeaſes, diſeaſes which (however ſingular I may be in my opinion) I am perſuaded owe their origin to the ſame cauſe, an acrid and diſtempered bile. The two firſt complaints, ſome phyſicians have inſiſted on are the ſame, while others have contended for their being diſtinct diſeaſes: in ſupport of this laſt opinion it is obſerved, the diagnoſticks of the diſorder are certainly different;

ferent; the blood, however, both of gouty and rheumatic ſubjects is nearly the ſame, (viz.) extremely ſizey and highly inflamed. To ſay with preciſion what is the cauſe of the different ſymptoms of theſe diſorders, is not perhaps in the power of finite reaſoners. Experience and attentive obſervation have however convinced me, that the Gout and Rheumatiſm are cured by nearly the ſame means; the pain in both caſes is quickly to be removed, the immediate cauſe of the diſorder corrected, and the health of the patient ſoon reſtored.

It too often happens that theſe diſorders are moſt improperly treated in their infancy, whereby the recovery of the patient's health and activity is often rendered very difficult, if not impoſſible. I muſt here remark; however offenſive it may be to people ſubject to theſe complaints, that this error is principally owing to themſelves, and not the faculty. The phyſician is ſeldom called in, till the patient and his attendants have tried every noſtrum they have heard recommended for the ſuppoſed diſorder. After they have gone round this

circle,

circle, and have, in conſequence of it, heightened the diſeaſe from their miſtaken opinion and wrong treatment of it, then it is they call for that aſſiſtance, which, if it had been timely procured, the ſick might have been eaſily reſtored, and thoſe fatal ſymptoms been prevented, which were brought on by original miſmanagement.

THERE is a common proverb in the Engliſh language which I will venture to pronounce has been the death of thouſands: (viz.) that "At the age of thirty a man is either a fool "or a phyſician." If this proverb was only extended to non-naturals, (as they are called) perhaps it might be juſt and uſeful; as it is eaſy enough for a perſon at that age to diſcover the advantages of living in good air, and that exceſs either in eating or drinking, too much or too little ſleep, great indolence or injudicious exerciſe, and an improper exertion of the paſſions are highly pernicious: but the misfortune is, that men preſume upon this proverb, and think it extends to the medicinal treatment

of

of diſeaſes in general: unhappy preſumption! If thoſe who are ſo fond of that proverb, and who in conſequence of it ſo often quack with themſelves, would but reflect a moment on the nature and curious formation of the animal machine, I think they would be leſs preſuming, and more cautious in attempting to reſtore it, when it unfortunately happens to be diſordered. If their watch is by any means injured, they immediately employ a proper perſon to repair it, tho' they have an opportunity of accurately examining every wheel, pin, and ſpring of this little machine, to find out it's defect. How differently do they act with regard to themſelves? If they are diſordered in any reſpect, they at once conclude they know the cauſe, and immediately apply the remedy: ſtrange infatuation! that in the firſt trifing inſtance they give up their judgment, yet in the other, tho' of ſuch conſequence, preſume on their knowledge of the human machine, which is a thouſand times more complicated, and therefore more difficult to be underſtood. What can be more evident? does not every day's experience prove, that many gentlemen of the profeſſion,

feſſion tho' formed by art and nature for the ſtudy of phyſic, often find themſelves at a loſs to account for ſome diſorders incident to the human body: in this caſe men of the greateſt ſkill act with the greateſt caution, and by waiting on nature and her operations, prevent thoſe deadly conſequences, which ignorant and preſuming people bring on themſelves and others by a haſty and officious adminiſtration of improper medicines.

The various diſpenſatories which have been publiſhed, with the thouſands, and tens of thouſands of receipts for curing diſeaſes, have perhaps in ſome degree given riſe to this general itch of quackery; and could their authors have conveyed to the readers the means to judge of diſeaſes, together with the recipes for curing them, ſomething might be ſaid in excuſe for ſo general a practice of phyſic. But this art is not to be acquired by reading diſpenſatories, and ſtudying receipts: a clear knowledge of the hiſtory of diſeaſes, joined to a thorough acquaintance with the materia medica, and a quick diſcernment, are the rare

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qualifications neceſſary to conſtitute a good phyſician; tho' I believe it may be affirmed with ſtrict juſtice that *Great-Britain* produces as many ſuch as any country in *Europe*.

The extreme difficulty of forming a true judgment of diſeaſes is beſt known to ſuch phyſicians as were juſt now deſcribed. They know that one diſeaſe has frequently the appearance of another, tho' ſpringing from a very different cauſe, and therefore to be treated in a very different manner. This naturally leads me to ſay ſomething of Hyſterical complaints; another diſorder I have profeſſedly undertaken to relieve.

Persons ſubject to this miſerable diſeaſe, I have conſtantly obſerved are of relaxed and delicate conſtitutions, of quick ſenſation, and conſequently of very irritable fibres. From theſe obſervations it will naturally occur, that if, from accident or any other cauſe, the blood and juices of ſuch ſubjects become contaminated, their conſtitutions muſt be injured; and the delicacy of their frame being incapable of

making ſuch powerful exertions, as are neceſſary to diſlodge the enemy, their whole nervous ſyſtem being tender and exquiſitely ſenſible, receives the firſt impreſſions of their diſordered habit. As the nerves are diſtributed through every part of the human frame, hence perhaps it is, that the vitiated fluids, more particularly affecting one part of the nervous ſyſtem than another, produce thoſe ſenſations, which make the afflicted perſon conceive ſhe has that complaint, particularly incident to the part affected: how can we otherwiſe account for hyſterical patients at times believing they are troubled with every chronic diſeaſe? That the nerves are principally affected in this diſorder is demonſtrable by the patient's receiving inſtant relief from fœtid and volatile medicines, and by the return of their complaints, as ſoon as thoſe medicines have expended their force, which generally happens in a very ſhort time: and therefore it is that medicines of this tribe never cure hyſterical affections. Having carefully attended to theſe circumſtances, it was clear to me that this ſtubborn diſeaſe would readily yield to a medicine ſo compounded, as

to brace up the relaxed habit, correct the vitiated craſis of the blood and juices, and at the ſame time give a ſtrong vibration to the nerves. Conformably with this theory, I moſt happily united in a medicine ſuch ingredients as have always had this ſurprizing good effect. I have adminiſtered it to many hyſterical patients, ſome dreadfully bad, whom it relieved in a ſhorter time than I care to mention; nor can I recollect one inſtance in which it failed of doing ſervice.

I HAVE frequently obſerved too with infinite concern, that gouty people, whoſe conſtitutions have been debilitated by an improper treatment, are frequently afflicted with hyſterical and hypocondriacal complaints; diſeaſes, tho' not exactly ſimilar, yet in Many inſtances much alike; and as both of them produce the moſt melancholy and horrible ideas, it is not to be wondered at, that ſuch ſufferers ſhould wiſh for a fit of the gout, in order to get rid of a worſe complaint. The methods however generally purſued in order to effect this purpoſe have ſeldom anſwered, and have too fre-

quently ſo ſhocked and diſordered the human frame, that it has not been in the power of medical art to reſtore it; the conſequence of which has often puſhed on the unhappy ſubjects of theſe complaints to acts of ſuicide, in order to get rid of a life, the continuance of which appears to them more dreadful than death itſelf.

If perſons laboring under theſe miſerable complaints are not too far gone, I am perſuaded it is in my power to reſtore them. Humanity (and not vanity, or an improper attachment to my intereſt) prompts me to ſay this. I muſt be weak indeed not to ſee, if my pretentions are ill founded, they muſt ſoon fall, and ſubject me to deſerved contempt. Confident however of my Integrity, and the Uprightneſs of my intentions, I ſhall riſk the conſequence, and rely on the candor of the public, and on the faithful repreſentation of ſuch people, as may think proper to put themſelves under my care.

Aſhton, near *Briſtol*, *May* 30, 1775.

THE following caſes (amongſt many others) having happened ſince the firſt publication of the apology, are now added to thoſe already related.

MR. BURGES, an eminent attorney, in *Briſtol*, who had been afflicted with the Gout about eight years, was now violently attacked with it in both his feet. Having ſent for me, he told me he had been juſt reading my Apology, and had from thence conceived great hopes it would be in my Power to relieve him: He ſaid "his "preſent fit was particularly unfortunate, for "that the aſſizes were ſoon coming on in *Briſtol*, "where he had many cauſes depending; that "the pain of the Gout was ſo excruciating, "he could not turn his thoughts to buſineſs, "notwithſtanding it was at that juncture ſo "eſſentially neceſſary." My viſit to him was on a Friday, when he earneſtly aſked me "if I "thought it was poſſible to cure him of this fit "before the Aſſizes began," which he obſerved "were to commence on the Monday ſe'nnight "following:" I told him he might certainly be relieved, provided he would follow my in-

ſtructions,

ſtructions, which I have reaſon to believe he did with exactneſs. The application of the liniment to his feet was very liberal, having uſed as much as I generally do in a fit when the Gout is all over me. The event was, that he was enabled to walk about his room on the Tueſday following, Wedneſday to dine at a friend's houſe, and the whole week following to attend the aſſizes in *Briſtol*, which he did without the leaſt pain or difficulty; and it was indeed remarked by ſome perſons in the Guild-hall, that if Mr. BURGES's extraordinary recovery had not been known, they ſhould not have believed (from his alertneſs) he had ever had the Gout.

The Rev. Dr. BUCK, of *Bideford*, in *Devonſhire*, who had been under my care at the *Hotwells*, and having receiv'd Benefit from my medicines, and ſeen their good effect on other gentlemen, was deſirous (from principles of real liberality and true benevolence) to relieve thoſe people with them in his neighbourhood, who might be afflicted with the gout, but whoſe ſituation in life would not permit them

to pay for proper aſſiſtance. In conſequence of this he took with him ſome of the medicines. Soon after he got home he had an opportunity of exerciſing his compaſſion on BARTHOLOMEW KING, one of his Majeſty's Weighers in the port of *Bideford*, who came to the Dr. *June* the 29, 1776, with the Gout in his finger, and which he declared gave him the moſt excruciating pain. The Dr. then gave him ſome of the weak liniment, with which he anointed his finger, in a few minutes the pain abated, in a quarter of an Hour he was perfectly eaſy and ſlept better the night following than he had for ſix months before. Preceding this attack, his appetite was bad, attended with great pains in his head and ſtomach. The Dr. who is perfectly acquainted with the prognoſtics of the diſorder, told the man that in all probability he would have a general fit of the gout, which he had been accuſtomed to have in almoſt every joint. The Dr.'s ſuſpicions proved true, and KING was ſucceſſively attacked with the gout in his left Hand and elbow, both feet, knees, and ancles: He now took the elixir, and anointed every part as it was attack-

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ed; what will perhaps appear wonderful he found almoſt inſtant eaſe: July the 27th he was perfectly recovered, and had only a little weakneſs in his ancles, which I am perſuaded from the advice the Dr. has given him he will ſoon get the better of.

Mrs. JONES, the Lady of WM. JONES, Eſq; of *Duffrin*, near *Carmarthen*.

MAYNARD COLCHESTER, Eſq; of *Weſtbury-upon-Severn*.

WILLIAM MUSGRAVE, Eſq; of *Burton*, in *Staffordſhire*.

The above-mentioned perſons have likewiſe authoriſed me to mention them as having received great Benefit from my Medicines; and it is to be obſerved, that Mrs. JONES, whoſe health was much improved by the medicines after a long debilitude, was again attacked with the gout: But in this fit however (which may be worthy of notice) it was confined to the extremes only, whereas in thoſe fits which had

had afflicted her for ſome Years before, it either attacked her in the head or ſtomach, and ſometimes in both.

SELF-LOVE, which is almoſt inſeperable from human nature, might prompt me to believe, that the teſtimony of theſe worthy people was given merely to ſerve me. I hope indeed their regard for me has in ſome degree influenced them; at the ſame time I am thoroughly convinced, a tender affection for thoſe people who are afflicted with ſimilar complaints, was the principal motive which induced them to do it.

THE relation of theſe caſes, with the account of thoſe people who have been likewiſe relieved, will, I preſume, be ſufficiently ſatisfactory to the Reader, and preclude the neceſſity of any farther publication, it being well known that no Perſon has been under my care either for the Gout or Hyſterics (who has in any tolerable degree followed my inſtructions) but has received great benefit from the Medicines: and what particularly deſerves attention is, thoſe patients who were accuſtomed to have the Gout in their

heads and ſtomachs, have been free from it in theſe parts ſince they have been under my care; the moſt honorable teſtimony of which is in my poſſeſſion.

I HAVE only to add, that my increaſing endeavours to diſcover the true cauſe and matter of the Gout, have enabled me from time to time to make farther improvements in the uſe and application of the proper remedies; and that in my laſt fit, which was no ſlight one, I could readily diſpenſe with my nocturnal attendants, a thing I had not done for twenty Years before.

WHAT farther improvements theſe remedies may admit of I ſhall not take upon me to ſay; by a chymical analyſis the ſame ſubſtance with that produced by the Gout, appears in the food we eat, and the liquor we drink; and as all poiſons have their antidotes, it is not impoſſible but a medicine may be diſcovered that will deſtroy the gouty matter as faſt as it is generated. If I ſhould ſucceed in ſo happy a diſcovery, it will give me the higheſt pleaſure to communicate it to the public, not ſo much

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from motives of perſonal advantage, as from thoſe principles of humanity and ſympathetic feelings, which cannot fail of operating powerfully on every Man who has ſuffered ſo much from the Gout as I have.

ADVERTISEMENT.

MANY Perſons who are ſituated at a conſiderable Diſtance from Dr. SMITH, having ſuggeſted to him the Difficulties they are under in procuring his Medicines for the Gout, he has thought it neceſſary to adopt a Plan by which the Public may be more readily ſupplied, and for this Purpoſe has entruſted the Diſpoſal of them to Mr. FRANCIS NEWBERY, Junior, Proprietor of Dr. JAMES's Powder. They are to be had therefore only at his Medicinal Warehouſe, No. 65, in St. *Paul's Church-Yard, London*, being three Doors from the Bar towards *Cheapſide*, and of thoſe Perſons in the Country whom Mr. NEWBERY ſhall appoint. Price Two Guineas each Box.